

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:

Version # _____

APP # 700009

ITEM 1. Proposed Project

The County of Trinity proposes to initiate a pro-active OHV enforcement program related to closed federal lands within Trinity County under the proposed 2009-2010 project.

The County of Trinity currently provides no OHV enforcement on a routine basis. Safety laws and vehicle code laws related to OHV are not currently enforced. Access and usage on closed federal lands are increasing. Services are currently provided only on a complaint basis and then not enforced due to the offender being gone by the time an officer arrives in the area. Officers cannot actively patrol closed areas due to the main offenders being on motorcycles/quads, snowmobiles, and the officer being in sedans.

Several problem areas have been identified by the Sheriff Dept., BLM, and the USFS as areas that are federally closed lands where OHV use is becoming so pervasive that it has become unmanageable for these agencies. These agencies have requested our assistance with the problem in the past but due to budget constraints and manpower issues we have been able to assist. Closed federal lands have become a play ground for OHV users in Trinity County. Though most OHV users strive to remain within legal boundaries, many have decided that any land conducive to OHV use are going to be used. Problems have included trespass, vandalism, marijuana cultivation, and erosion caused by the use of OHV's. With continued drought years and lower lake levels the Trinity Lake bottom use by OHV's will continue to grow, causing toxins in the water when the lake rises, destruction to fish habitat, and injury to archeological sites that are normally under water.

The proposed project is for the delivery of Law Enforcement services to areas of Trinity County that are currently closed to OHV use. The project will be initiated with the goal of reducing the illegal OHV use on closed federal lands during summer and winter (snowmobiles). There is no local enforcement of OHV laws and regulations currently due in most part to a reduced county budget and the lack of funds to provide this service. Trinity County covers approx. 3,500 square mile of rugged mountains and deep valleys. Almost 80% of the county is federal lands including National Forests and Wilderness areas. Trinity County is known for its illegal marijuana cultivation and is one of three counties known as the Emerald Triangle. Many marijuana cultivators use ATV's and OHV's to transport their product and to access their gardens. We have also seen an increase in the use of closed lands by recreational OHV users all four seasons. Snowmobile use on these lands has become a well known recreation activity also. Trinity County is easily accessed from Redding via Highway 299. Officers and Volunteers from the Sheriff's Office have personally seen the results of OHV users on closed lands. Erosion and vandalism are the main effect. If signs have been posted, they are eventually removed by the OHV users. Motorcycles, quads, 4x4's, and snowmobiles are the popular choice for OHV use on these closed lands. On any given weekend we find numerous trailers and trucks parked along the roads that have been used to transport this equipment into the closed areas. Due to lack of funding we do nothing with these people.

This program will be coordinated by the Sheriff's Dept. and in cooperation with federal agencies. The Sheriff Dept. will dedicate 1,000 total man-hours to the project with emphasis on patrol and law enforcement. Sheriff's Deputies will patrol from two on/off road motorcycles and two ATVs equipped with dirt/snow tracks. Officers and volunteers from the Sheriff Dept. will conduct the patrol activities. The rate of pay is determined by Rank and possible overtime rates. The main problem in the mentioned areas occurs on weekends and holidays. Patrol activities will also be conducted during some weekdays during school summer vacation. Officers and volunteers will patrol the areas for violators and stop the violators to ensure that they are legally in the area and to conduct safety inspections on the OHV related to safety equipment such as spark arrestors. Officers and Volunteers will patrol as partners. ATVs with tracks will enable us to also patrol snowmobile areas and access areas of use during winter months. Officers and volunteers will also conduct training talks with the local schools in an effort to teach kids about OHV laws and regulations. We will also talk with civic groups at their request, along with handing out OHV literature to all contacts made during OHV patrol.

With the approval of this grant program the Sheriff Dept. will be in a position to coordinate efforts at reducing mentioned problems. A routine patrol of closed lands and an increased presence by law enforcement officers will allow us to apprehend illegal OHV users and reduce illegal woodcutting and marijuana cultivation. We will encourage the public to report illegal OHV use and investigate every report.

ITEM 2. Project Coverage

Trinity County covers approximately 3500 square miles of mountain terrain. Almost 80% of the county is federal lands including National Forests and Wilderness areas. (See Law Enforcement - Page 1 section of this application for identified areas). Every effort will be made to patrol complaint areas and areas of possible illegal use.

ITEM 3. Describe the frequency of the patrols

The County of Trinity will patrol closed federal lands and enforce the closed area regulations related to the California Vehicle Code, other state statutes and Federal Regulations. The County to provide the following patrols and services; A) 500 patrol hours on closed Federal lands from two grant funded quad runners. B) 500 patrol hours on closed Federal lands from Sheriff Dept. on/off road motorcycles. C) Conduct vehicle registration/safety equipment inspections. D) Cite and remove OHV's from closed federal lands. E) Conduct criminal investigations related to OHV users. F) During patrol hours conduct recon for marijuana cultivation sites and illegal fire wood cutters on Federal lands. G) Complete logs verifying patrol hours, areas patrolled, inspections completed, citations issued, and arrests made. H) Conduct education seminars for school age children and civic groups as requested.

Patrols will be done on weekends and holidays when most OHV users are present, some weekdays during the school summer vacation time, and weekends and holidays during the winter when snowmobile season is at its peak.

ITEM 4. Deployment of Personnel

Officers will be scheduled as two person teams, with the ability to saturate an area with four personnel at one time. A maximum of two teams can be scheduled at one time to cover different parts of the County.

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Law Enforcement - Page 1

1. Identify areas with high priority law enforcement needs because of public safety, cultural resources, and sensitive environmental habitats, including wilderness areas and areas of critical environmental concerns:

Union Hill Pond, Tucker Hill, Deadwood, Brock Gulch, Indian Creek, Spring Gulch, Bully Choop, East Lewiston Lake, Keno Camp, and Trinity Lake bottom. All these areas above are closed federal land that have heavy illegal OHV use. Closed signs have been vandalized or removed. There are now hundreds of illegal trails in these areas, causing erosion to flow into lakes, ponds, streams, and the Trinity River. Some areas are accessed by Shasta County OHV users riding in from Shasta County. The Gulches are accessed by Marijuana growers for water access, using OHV's to enter the wilderness for their grows. With continued drought years and lower lake levels the Trinity Lake bottom use by OHV's will continue to grow, causing toxins in the water when the lake rises, destruction to fish habitat, and injury to archeological sites that are normally under water.

2. Describe how the proposed Project relates to OHV Recreation and will sustain OHV Recreation, motorized off-highway access to non-motorized recreation, or OHV Opportunities associated with the Project Area:

Currently we provide no OHV patrol activities due to budget constraints. If awarded this project, Trinity County Sheriff's Office will dedicate Officers to patrol closed federal lands for illegal OHV users. Officers will utilize motorcycles and quad runners in this endeavor to issue citations and make arrests when appropriate. Officers will contact OHV users and inspect for proper safety equipment. We will present publications and presentations to the public for OHV education.

3. Describe the Applicant's formal or informal cooperation with other law enforcement agencies:

Trinity County Sheriff Dept. works in cooperation, both formal and informal, with BLM and USFS regarding illegal activities on their lands.

Law Enforcement - Page 2

4. Does the Applicant recover a portion of the law enforcement costs directly associated with privately sponsored OHV events where sponsors have obtained a local permit? ☐ Yes ☒ No
(Please select Yes or No)

Explain

We do not have sponsors or private parties obtaining permits and conducting OHV events.

5. The Applicant agrees to implement a public education program that includes information on safety programs available in the area and how to report OHV violations? ☒ Yes ☐ No
(Please select Yes or No)

6. Describe the Applicant's OHV law enforcement training program including how the training program educates personnel to address OHV safety and natural and cultural resource protection:

Law Enforcement personnel are first trained in the proper use and maintenance of the equipment they will be patrolling with. A motorcycle license is required to ride our motorcycles and a course is provided for those who need such. A quad runner operation/safety course is required and provided. A one day classroom is provided with materials on what the personnel will be enforcing, OHV laws and regulations, and what areas are specific to the patrol. Training is also provided regarding what signs to look for regarding possible marijuana cultivation on federal land and eradication process. Also woodcutting permit rules and enforcement.

Law Enforcement - Page 3

7. Is the proposed project in accordance with local or federal plans and the OHMVR Division Strategic Plan? ☒ Yes ☐ No
(Please select Yes or No)
8. LOCAL AGENCIES ONLY - Describe the Applicant's policies and/or agreements regarding enforcement on federal land:

As California Peace Officers, 836PC of the Penal Code, Trinity County Sheriff Department has criminal jurisdiction on all lands in Trinity County. We work very closely with our local BLM and USFS regarding issues on their lands, and due to their lack of manpower to cover all their lands, they welcome our efforts to patrol and enforce on federal land.

9. COUNTIES ONLY - Describe how the OHV in-lieu of tax funds are being used and whether the use of these fees complements the Applicant's project:

This money, \$10,676 last year, is received in the County's General Fund and is used for general fund departments at the Auditors and Board of Supervisors discretion. A portion of this money could be used to offset the costs of any expenses the Sheriff department may have that exceed the Project match.

Law Enforcement - Page 4

10. APPLICANTS WHO MANAGE OHV RECREATION FACILITIES – Describe how your organization is meeting its operation and maintenance needs:

We have no OHV recreation facilities.

11. The Applicant agrees to enforce the registration of OHVs and the other provision of Division 16.5 commencing with Section 38000 of the vehicle code and to enforce other applicable laws regarding the operation of OHVs? (Please select Yes or No) ☒ Yes ☐ No

Project Cost Estimate for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2008/2009
 Agency: Trinity County Sheriff's Department
 Application: Law Enforcement

6/2/2009

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:		Version # _____	APP # _____
APPLICANT NAME :	Trinity County Sheriff's Department		
PROJECT TITLE :	Law Enforcement	PROJECT NUMBER (Division use only) :	
PROJECT TYPE :	<input type="checkbox"/> Acquisition <input type="checkbox"/> Development <input type="checkbox"/> Education & Safety <input type="checkbox"/> Ground Operations <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Law Enforcement <input type="checkbox"/> Planning <input type="checkbox"/> Restoration		
PROJECT DESCRIPTION :	<p>The County of Trinity proposes to initiate a pro-active OHV enforcement program related to closed federal lands within Trinity County under the proposed 2009-2010 project.</p> <p>The County of Trinity currently provides no OHV enforcement on a routine basis. Safety laws and vehicle code laws related to OHV are not currently enforced. Access and usage on closed federal lands are increasing. Services are currently provided only on a complaint basis and then not enforced due to the offender being gone by the time an officer arrives in the area. Officers cannot actively patrol closed areas due to the main offenders being on motorcycles/quads, snowmobiles, and the officer being in sedans.</p> <p>Several problem areas have been identified by the Sheriff Dept., BLM, and the USFS as areas that are federally closed lands where OHV use is becoming so pervasive that it has become unmanageable for these agencies. These agencies have requested our assistance with the problem in the past but due to budget constraints and manpower issues we have been able to assist. Closed federal lands have become a play ground for OHV users in Trinity County. Though most OHV users strive to remain within legal boundaries, many have decided that any land conducive to OHV use are going to be used. Problems have included trespass, vandalism, marijuana cultivation, and erosion caused by the use of OHV's. With continued drought years and lower lake levels the Trinity Lake bottom use by OHV's will continue to grow, causing toxins in the water when the lake rises, destruction to fish habitat, and injury to archeological sites that are normally under water.</p> <p>The proposed project is for the delivery of Law Enforcement services to areas of Trinity County that are currently closed to OHV use. The project will be initiated with the goal of reducing the illegal OHV use on closed federal lands during summer and winter (snowmobiles). There is no local enforcement of OHV laws and regulations currently due in most part to a reduced county budget and the lack of funds to provide this service. Trinity County covers approx. 3,500 square mile of rugged mountains and deep valleys. Almost 80% of the county is federal lands including National Forests and Wilderness areas. Trinity County is known for its illegal marijuana cultivation and is one of three counties known as the Emerald Triangle. Many marijuana cultivators use ATV's and OHV's to transport their product and to access their gardens. We have also seen a increase in the use of closed lands by recreational OHV users all four seasons. Snowmobile use on these lands has become a well known recreation activity also. Trinity County is easily accessed from Redding via Highway 299. Officers and Volunteers from the Sheriff's Office have personally seen the results of OHV users on closed lands. Erosion and vandalism are the main effect. If signs have been posted, they are eventually removed by the OHV users. Motorcycles, quads, 4x4's, and snowmobiles are the popular choice for OHV use on these closed lands. On any given weekend we find numerous trailers and trucks parked along the roads that have been used to transport this equipment into the closed areas. Due to lack of funding we do nothing with these people.</p> <p>This program will be coordinated by the Sheriff's Dept. and in cooperation with federal agencies. The Sheriff Dept. will dedicate 1,000 total man-hours to the project with emphasis on patrol and law enforcement. Sheriff's Deputies will patrol from two on/off road motorcycles and two ATVs equipped with dirt/snow tracks. Officers and volunteers from the Sheriff Dept. will conduct the patrol activities. The rate of pay is determined by Rank and possible overtime rates. The main problem in the mentioned areas occurs on weekends and holidays. Patrol activities will also be conducted during some weekdays during school summer vacation. Officers and volunteers will patrol the areas for violators and stop the violators to ensure that they are legally in the area and to conduct safety inspections on the OHV related to safety equipment such as spark arrestors. Officers and Volunteers will patrol as partners. ATVs with tracks will enable us to also patrol snowmobile areas and access areas of use during winter months. Officers and volunteers will also conduct training talks with the local schools in an effort to teach kids about OHV laws and regulations. We will also talk with civic groups at their request, along with handing out OHV</p>		

Project Cost Estimate for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2008/2009
Agency: Trinity County Sheriff's Department
Application: Law Enforcement

6/2/2009

	<p>literature to all contacts made during OHV patrol.</p> <p>With the approval of this grant program the Sheriff Dept. will be in a position to coordinate efforts at reducing mentioned problems. A routine patrol of closed lands and an increased presence by law enforcement officers will allow us to apprehend illegal OHV users and reduce illegal woodcutting and marijuana cultivation. We will encourage the public to report illegal OHV use and investigate every report.</p>
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	Line Item	Qty	Rate	UOM	Grant Request	Match	Total
DIRECT EXPENSES							
Program Expenses							
1	Staff						
	Administration Officer	74.000	28.840	HRS	0.00	2,134.00	2,134.00
	Law Enforcement Officers	500.000	39.690	HRS	19,845.00	0.00	19,845.00
	Sergeant	500.000	45.630	HRS	22,815.00	0.00	22,815.00
	Other-Volunteer	275.000	28.840	HRS	0.00	7,931.00	7,931.00
	Total for Staff				42,660.00	10,065.00	52,725.00
2	Contracts						
3	Materials / Supplies						
	Safety Equipment	8.000	700.000	SET	5,600.00	0.00	5,600.00
	Emergency Medical Supplies	2.000	450.000	SET	0.00	900.00	900.00
	EMT Refills	2.000	100.000	SET	0.00	200.00	200.00
	Total for Materials / Supplies				5,600.00	1,100.00	6,700.00
4	Equipment Use Expenses						
	Other-Building Storage Rent	12.000	300.000	MOS	0.00	3,600.00	3,600.00
	Vehicle Operations and Maintenance	4.000	250.000	YR	0.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
	Other-Fuel	1.000	2980.000	YR	0.00	2,980.00	2,980.00

Project Cost Estimate for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2008/2009
 Agency: Trinity County Sheriff's Department
 Application: Law Enforcement

6/2/2009

	Line Item	Qty	Rate	UOM	Grant Request	Match	Total
	Other-Tires	12.000	75.000	EA	900.00	0.00	900.00
	Total for Equipment Use Expenses				900.00	7,580.00	8,480.00
5	Equipment Purchases						
	Other-Two ATVs w/tracks and trailer.	1.000	34000.000	PKG	34,000.00	0.00	34,000.00
6	Others						
	Training	8.000	450.000	EA	0.00	3,600.00	3,600.00
	Insurance	12.000	50.000	MOS	0.00	600.00	600.00
	Total for Others				0.00	4,200.00	4,200.00
7	Administrative Costs						
	Administrative Costs-Accountant/Admin Gr	1.000	5158.000	YR	0.00	5,158.00	5,158.00
Total Program Expenses					83,160.00	28,103.00	111,263.00
TOTAL DIRECT EXPENSES					83,160.00	28,103.00	111,263.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURES					83,160.00	28,103.00	111,263.00

Project Cost Summary for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2008/2009
 Agency: Trinity County Sheriff's Department
 Application: Law Enforcement

6/2/2009

	Line Item	Grant Request	Match	Total	Narrative
DIRECT EXPENSES					
Program Expenses					
1	Staff	42,660.00	10,065.00	52,725.00	
2	Contracts	0.00	0.00	0.00	
3	Materials / Supplies	5,600.00	1,100.00	6,700.00	
4	Equipment Use Expenses	900.00	7,580.00	8,480.00	
5	Equipment Purchases	34,000.00	0.00	34,000.00	
6	Others	0.00	4,200.00	4,200.00	
7	Administrative Costs	0.00	5,158.00	5,158.00	
Total Program Expenses		83,160.00	28,103.00	111,263.00	
TOTAL DIRECT EXPENSES		83,160.00	28,103.00	111,263.00	
TOTAL EXPENDITURES		83,160.00	28,103.00	111,263.00	

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ITEM 1 and ITEM 2

ITEM 1

- a. ITEM 1 - Has a CEQA Notice of Determination (NOD) been filed for the Project? ☐ Yes ☒ No
(Please select Yes or No)

ITEM 2

- b. ITEM 2 - Are the proposed activities a "Project" under CEQA Guidelines Section 15378? ☐ Yes ☒ No
(Please select Yes or No)
- c. The Application is requesting funds solely for personnel and support to enforce OHV laws and ensure public safety. These activities would not cause any physical impacts on the environment and are thus not a "Project" under CEQA. (Please select Yes or No) ☒ Yes ☐ No
- d. Other. Explain why proposed activities would not cause any physical impacts on the environment and are thus not a "Project" under CEQA. DO NOT complete ITEMS 3 – 9

ITEM 3 - Impact of this Project on Wetlands

ITEM 4 - Cumulative Impacts of this Project

ITEM 5 - Soil Impacts

ITEM 6 - Damage to Scenic Resources

ITEM 7 - Hazardous Materials

Is the proposed Project Area located on a site included on any list compiled pursuant to Section 65962.5 of the California Government Code (hazardous materials)? (Please select Yes or No) ☐ Yes ☒ No

If YES, describe the location of the hazard relative to the Project site, the level of hazard and the measures to be taken to minimize or avoid the hazards.

ITEM 8 - Potential for Adverse Impacts to Historical or Cultural Resources

Would the proposed Project have potential for any substantial adverse impacts to historical or cultural resources? (Please select Yes or No) ☐ Yes ☒ No

If YES, describe the potential impacts and for any substantially adverse changes in the significance of historical or cultural resources and measures to be taken to minimize or avoid the impacts.

ITEM 9 - Indirect Significant Impacts

CEQA/NEPA Attachment